



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
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INFORMATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS

Visits by Chinese Government Officials to State and Local Governments in the United States



The U.S. Department of State requires representatives of the Chinese government to provide prior notification of their visits to and meetings with state, local, and municipal governments; and educational and research institutions – including National Laboratories.

WHO DOES THIS IMPACT? Members of the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC; members of Chinese consulates located in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco; and Chinese government officials temporarily visiting the United States.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE? U.S. diplomats in China are required to ask for permission in order to interact with key elements of Chinese society, including students and heads of local governments, and this permission is often denied. This new U.S. State Department requirement is a reciprocal response to China's restrictions on our diplomats in China. We urge Chinese authorities to allow our diplomats to engage with provincial and local leaders as well as visit Chinese research and educational institutions.

WHAT ROLE DO YOU HAVE? This requirement only applies to the Chinese government officials described above. However, you are encouraged to contact the U.S. Department of State, Office of Foreign Missions (OFM), if you have any questions or wish to share any information concerning a past or future visit/meeting with your organization. OFM can be reached for this purpose at OFM-Info@state.gov or by telephone at (202) 647-3417.